



DTS Arrives at NAVOCEANO

NAVOCEANO will soon implement a new way to plan government travel called the Defense Travel System (DTS).

First administered four years ago, 232 sites across DOD currently use DTS to support hundreds of thousands of military and civilian personnel.

DTS ensures travelers, authorizing officials, managers and commanders are quickly and electronically reimbursed for travel expenses. Paperwork and the time spent processing it are reduced, and government charge cards are automatically paid.

In 2003, DTS became the official DOD temporary duty (TDY) travel system and was approved DOD-wide.

DTS Program Director Air Force Col. Brandy Johnson describes DTS as "a state-of-the-art system...that draws from the best features of commercial travel technology and links them to the DOD financial and accounting systems to provide the user a seamless, responsive travel system. DTS will mean online TDY travel for virtually every

See **DTS**, page 10.

Admiral's Call with RDML McGee Shares New Information, Ideas and Plans



RDML Timothy McGee meets with NAVOCEANO employees at one of his Admiral's Calls in April. McGee articulated his plans and answered questions from audience members.

Many more uniforms will be seen at NAVOCEANO as Commander, Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Command continues a rigorous realignment process to get leaner and create stronger links between military and civilian professionals, RDML Tim McGee said at a series of Admiral's Calls held April 27 for NAVOCEANO employees at Stennis Space Center (SSC).

During his talk, McGee touched on organizational realignment, the A-76 process, the new Navy personnel schedule, Base Realignment and Closure and program health. But CNMOC's current military realignment process received top billing in his remarks.

"This is the deep change that's going on in the Naval oceanographic community," McGee said. CNMOC has already

See **RDML McGee**, page 5.

Educational Outreach



Students brush up on oceanography at NAVOCEANO's StenniSphere exhibit the day before the competition.

NAVO Supports Students at NOSB

Several NAVOCEANO employees and their family members served as judges and other officials for the National Ocean Sciences Bowl's final rounds in Biloxi and Long Beach, Miss., in April.

High school students from as far away as Hawaii and Alaska spent four days in Mississippi, during which time they ventured out for field trips to the Aquarium of the Americas, the Glenn L. Swetman Schooner and StenniSphere at Stennis Space Center among others before competing.

After participating in two days of the quiz bowl-type contest, students from Cranston High School West in Rhode Island took the top honors, winning a seven-day trip to Hawaii to learn more about ocean sciences there. Other students left with scholarships, on-site research opportunities and other prizes worth thousands of dollars provided by NOAA.

Each year, the regional Ocean Sciences Bowl is held in Biloxi. To participate as an official in 2006, contact Public Affairs.

From the Commanding Officer

Hurricane Preparedness and Command Update

The dreaded heat of summer is upon us and with that the beginning of hurricane season.

As many of you remember from last year, we dodged a huge bullet with Hurricane Ivan. Had it not taken a significant eastward turn as it approached the Mississippi Gulf Coast, we would have had a direct hit.

It's never too early to start preparing for the upcoming season. Please don't wait until a storm is bearing down on us to try and get boards for your windows or plan your evacuation route. A little bit of simple planning now will make things go much more smoothly when you need it.

There are three issues I'd like to update you on this month: the upcoming A-76 study, preliminary results of the Smart Search 2005 exercise which just finished and a few words on the health of the community and how it relates to the Washington, D.C., budget battles.

First, here are the latest developments in the A-76 study: Our Union sent a letter to Senator Lott and Congressman Taylor's offices with reasons we should not have to do a study. These reasons included the Booz Allen Hamilton study, which viewed us as a very efficient organization.

Congressman Taylor then sent a letter to the Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) for a better explanation of why we were being forced to conduct the study. SECNAV's response was that we were not necessarily going to have to do an A-76, and that we were currently only in the pre-planning phase.

This should not be construed as NAVOCEANO's being off the hook for a study; we're not. It just stresses how important this preliminary phase will be.

As we develop statements of work for individual jobs (please, please, please)—yes, I'm passionate about it—make sure everything you do is identified and captured in the study. If it isn't, it will make it easier for a contractor to bid on something that might only be one-half of what you do. CDR Hallal will send out an update on the A-76 process soon.

I would next like to discuss some of the early results of the Smart Search exercise just completed. Some of the significant contributions and accomplishments include:

- a pre-bathymetry survey by USNS *Pathfinder*, which resulted in significantly improved range predictions;
- first time multiglider deployment from one of our T-AGS;
- the establishment of a glider control station at NAVOCEANO; and
- improvements on our antisubmarine warfare (ASW) Reach Back Cell concept offering tactical recommendations based on environmental conditions.

Our community Technical Director Mr. Ed Gough, said, "I have not seen a better quicklook brief ever." He also said he thought it would have taken two to three years to get where we already are in the ASW support. Well done to everyone involved, especially our superb ASW team.

I would like to wrap up by discussing the health of the community and recent budget victories in the D.C. arena.

First of all, our business line focus is really gaining traction in big Navy. We have groups engaged at the highest levels in ASW, Naval Special Warfare, Mine Warfare and Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance.

We are making great progress in identifying to the warfighter how valuable we are in helping him make critical decisions. This is reflected in the Program Review 2007 budget submission in which our community will be plused-up nearly \$200M over the years 2007 to 2011 for littoral battlespace sensing.

We also have a new survey ship identified in congressional language, which we are very confident will make it through the budget process. The Chief of Naval Operations has not given the final approval for this plus up yet, but it has made it through the whole N7 organization (a significant accomplishment).

This community has never been rebaselined to such an extent. We have really demonstrated relevance to the Navy's senior leadership, and it's mostly because of the hard work by the men and women of NAVOCEANO. I could not be more pleased at how far we have come in the last year. Congratulations, and keep up the great work!



*CAPT Jeffrey Best
Commanding Officer*

Welcome Aboard

Keith Atkinson
Adele Babin
Ralph Bingham
Jacqueline Bussell
CDR Brent Clarke
LTJG Heather Hornick
Nakia McKay
John Rath
Misty Savell

Upcoming Events

A **Town Hall meeting** for N1, N2 and NS will take place on Thursday, 16 June.

AUV Fest kicks off in Keyport, Wa., on 6 June and continues through 17 June.

Independence Day is Monday, 4 July. State and federal offices will be closed.

A **Town Hall meeting** for N4, N7 and N8 will take place on Thursday, 7 July.

Fleet Survey Team will hold a **Change of Command** ceremony on 22 July.

Department Highlight

0C: Attentive to the Needs of Surveyors, NAVOCEANO, the Navy.

With talk of budget shortages and reductions, new ships and financial upswings, money seems to be a topic of interest at NAVOCEANO now more than ever. So it should come as no surprise that Comptroller Don Lancaster and his staff are busy quelling rumors, spreading truths and working hard to ensure NAVOCEANO is on top of any financial news relating to the organization.

The 26 people who make up the Office of the Comptroller (0C) are subdivided into three branches, Funds Administration, Budget & Programs and Disbursing.

According to Lancaster, the vast majority of Disbursing's workload is travel-related, such as travel claims, checks, etc.

0C is playing a big role in preparing for the implementation of the Defense Travel System (see page 1), a process that will streamline and automate travel

authorization and reservations and voucher filing.

"I think it's going to be a good thing for the more usual travel scenarios," said Lancaster.

0C operates 1.5 to 2 years ahead of the current year. At press time, 0C was busy working on their fiscal year Department of the Navy 2007 budget submission. The submission will take a long route via Commander, Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Command (COMNAVMETOCOM), Commander, Fleet Forces Command, Department of the Navy, Department of Defense and Office of Management and Budget before the President signs off, and the money is actually secured.

Once the money is approved for use by NAVOCEANO, Budget & Programs manages where the money goes, tracks what it is being used for and briefs upper management on finances.

Approximately 10,000 purchases a

year are made with government purchase cards. Once the purchases are made, accounting personnel along with the APC and Command Evaluation staff look at each purchase and determine the legality of the purchase, if it's the minimum required to perform the mission and if funds are available.

Accounting personnel are interested in NAVOCEANO's debits and credits.

0C works closely with management and other codes to help NAVOCEANO reach its goals.

"0C is focused inward on how we can support the other codes in achieving the Strategic Plan," said Lancaster.

Plans, Programs & Requirements (N8) is one example. The two codes frequently work together to ensure that representatives deployed worldwide have the resources they need.

"We juggle figuring out how to get money around the world, being attentive
See **0C**, page 10.

Employee Spotlight

0CD's Cospelich Stays Busy "Supporting the Needs of Our Travelers"

Editor's Note: At the request of Comptroller Don Lancaster, two employees are spotlighted in this newsletter edition because of their independent exemplary performances.

The employees of NAVOCEANO can embark on government trips knowing that details of their travel order costs and financial arrangements are being cared for under the scrupulous eye of Gina Cospelich.

As assistant disbursing officer, Cospelich plans, directs and supervises the activities of the Disbursing Office (0CD) along with Disbursing Officer Jerry Palang. She and her team process an average of 3,700 travel orders each year. In addition, they issue funding advances and handle electronic fund transfers along with travel orders.

Disbursing also handles travel orders and expenses for several other areas, including Special Boat Team 22, NAVS-CIATTS, Human Resources Service Center-Southeast and foreign summer

students.

Cospelich sees the mission of her office as "being user-friendly and beneficial for supporting the needs of our travelers."

The taxpayers get their money's worth at the Disbursing Office. All the work is currently being done with a staff of three voucher examiners, a part-time contractor and a part-time student worker. The office is now recruiting a fourth voucher examiner.

"We stay busy," Cospelich said. "I really like all that I do, and I've always been oriented toward customer service."

Cospelich started out in general studies with an emphasis in psychology at Pearl River Community College. In 1994, she graduated from the University of Southern Mississippi with a bachelor of science degree in psychology.

She considers her studies of the human mind and her professional life a perfect match. "Psychology has always



Disbursing's Gina Cospelich

been a fascinating subject, and I've always liked the business world," she said.

Cospelich grew up in Hancock County and came to NAVOCEANO in 1989 as a summer hire. She then became involved with the Stay in School Program and later with Cooperative Education.

In April 1999, she went to the Office of the Comptroller as a financial technician. "There, I got a very basic overview of the budgeting system," she said. "It

See **Cospelich**, page 9.

Employee Spotlight

OCB's North Shares Her Experience In and Out of the Office

Born and raised in San Diego, Calif., Carol Ann North moved a long way from home when she took a job as a budget analyst with NAVOCEANO in 1979. But she can't imagine it any other way now.

North started her government career in 1967 with Naval Air Rework Facility as a clerk typist in San Diego. In 1969, she joined the METOC community in Alameda, Calif., at Fleet Weather Central (FWC).

In 1979, when the entire Meteorological Oceanographic Equipment Program within FWC transferred to NAVOCEANO (now part of N643), she moved to Mississippi to take a position as a

budget analyst for the NAVOCEANO Comptroller.

The path North has taken has been long but well deserved. With some college but no degree, her years of experience have proven very useful. Though offered the budget officer position several times, she has declined each time.

She says her promotions throughout the years result from being "in the right place at the right time" and always "looking over the shoulders of others and learning."

"I've grown here at NAVOCEANO," said North. "I've had wonderful co-workers, friends and supervisors." North enjoys working with the Comptroller's group. "We have such good camaraderie. It's a good family group. But it is challenging at times." The most recent challenge for the staff has been aligning NAVOCEANO with the claimancy's new business lines.

North is currently busy with budget and POM submissions, updating and maintaining the Roadmap (a financial database) and the Financial Management

Information System (FMIS), a weekly budget and accounting report of how much money is available for use.

North, who has 38 years of government service, is planning to retire soon. In her last few months here at NAVOCEANO, she is busy imparting her knowledge and experience to junior employees. "It's time now for the younger ones to take over," said North.

North also keeps busy out of the office. She teaches Sunday School, leads youth groups on Wednesday nights at her church and is looking into working with Youth for Christ, a national evangelical organization, in her retirement years. She recently joined the Diamondhead chapter of the popular Red Hat Society, a women's social group that believes life just begins at 50. They call themselves the "Red Hat Tamales."

North doesn't have plans to slow down in retirement. In addition to planning for a pleasure cruise and visiting relatives, she said she is ready to point her yellow truck in any direction and travel some more.



Budget & Programs' Carol North

Money Sense

Look Closer Before Buying Bond Investments

Editor's Note: "Money Sense" is a series of articles dealing with personal finance issues. While we cannot make recommendations on specific investments, these articles deal with general themes and are designed to help you navigate the financial markets.

Question: Is there anything special I should consider before investing in bonds or a bond mutual fund, especially for retirement?

Answer: Bonds generally do not pay super-high returns, but are desirable as a conservative, low risk investment. A retirement portfolio without bonds is something like a ship without ballast.

Bonds represent debt that is sold by companies or government entities to raise money. The issuer promises to pay a guaranteed income stream to investors over the life of the bond issue.

There are several things to look at

before investing in bonds:

Corporate quality: Is the company issuing the bonds a high-quality operation with a good business brand and solid reputation? Are its employees happy? Does the business model make sense to you? You can find out about these things on various Internet investment chat boards.

High yield risk: You can generally get substantially higher returns with lower-rated bonds, but you also increase your risk level. Such high yield bonds—also called "junk bonds"—are often sold by companies that have sub-prime credit or operate in higher-risk industries.

Be aware that high-yield bond mutual funds can gyrate in the market, acting more like stocks than bonds. In the early nineties, individual investors and pension funds lost millions when the high

yield bond market collapsed.

Interest rate risk: Nearly all kinds of bonds, regardless of quality, have a seesaw relationship with interest rates: When rates go up, bond values fall.

Call risk: Corporate bonds often suffer call risk, especially in an environment of declining interest rates. The issuing company may be able to recall its bonds when rates go down, and then issue new bonds at a lower interest rate. Result: Investors in the original bonds lose out on the future income stream that prompted them to buy bonds in the first place. Avoid bonds with call provisions whenever possible.

Many experts believe a retirement portfolio should be at least 30 percent weighted in bonds or bond funds, with the bond percentage growing larger as the investor gets closer to retirement.

RDML McGee, continued from page 1.

taken a 22 percent reduction in its uniformed force, with all the cuts coming in meteorology, he added.

Eventually, CNMOC's eight captain commands will be reduced to three: NAVOCEANO, Fleet Numerical Meteorology and Oceanography Center (FNMOC) in Monterey, Calif., and the newly formed Chief of Oceanographic Operations, to be based at SSC.

As Navy forecasting and weather briefing services are scaled back, more sailors and officers will be transferred to SSC to work with civilian professionals and learn how to better apply NAVOCEANO's work on the warfighting end.

The increased military presence at SSC does not mean that NAVOCEANO civilian positions will be threatened.

"We've never grown a set of officers or an officer corps who has had interface with you on a routine basis," he said. "So this alignment is about aligning our military, by and large, with you."

On the A-76 process, McGee said 202 NAVOCEANO jobs are under study. The process involves competition and bidding between NAVOCEANO and private contractors to perform those jobs in the future.

McGee said it is imperative that Navy civilian workers disclose the full extent of their responsibilities during interviews with contractors, to make certain the contractors understand the entire scope of the work and make their bids accordingly.

"It hinges on our ability to work with that contractor and make sure they fully understand the scope of the things you do," he said.

McGee expressed a positive long-term outlook on National Security Personnel System, the new Navy-wide civilian personnel system that includes a pay-for-performance approach.

"Nobody's losing pay coming out of the blocks, and I think it's going to take a year or two for this to settle down," McGee said. "I think in the end, this is going to be a very positive thing for this organization."

As for program health, McGee said

NAVOCEANO News

Civilian of the Quarter, Year Awards

The NAVOCEANO Civilian of the Quarter (COQ)/Year (COY) Program has been revamped and reinstated.

The revived program is intended to recognize the best all-around performances by NAVOCEANO civilians, with special emphasis on actions taken to enhance the mission or quality of life at NAVOCEANO.

The simplified process is as follows: department directors solicit for nominations from within their departments.

Each department will then select two nominees—one mid-grade (GS-12 and below) and one senior-grade (GS-13 and above).

Each department's selection will be given to a panel of individuals headed by the executive officer, including the technical director, one department director (on a revolving basis), a Human Resources representative and one non-voting Union representative.

The board will review submitted nominations and forward its final selection to the commanding officer for final approval.

COQ award recipients will receive \$250 and COY winners, \$1,000.

Only government civilians are eligible for the award and only if they have been employed by NAVOCEANO as a civilian for the entire quarter or year.

Navy News

Navy Secretary's Principles of Leadership

At the U.S. Naval Academy's Forrester Lecture Series, Secretary of the Navy Gordon England identified 15 important principles of leadership based on his personal experiences as a business executive and as the 72nd Secretary of the Navy.

1. Provide an environment for every person to excel.
2. Treat every person with dignity and respect — nobody is more important than anyone else.
3. Be forthright, honest and direct with every person and in every circumstance.
4. Improve effectiveness to gain efficiency.
5. Cherish your time and the time of others — it is not renewable.
6. Identify the critical problems that need solution for the organization to

succeed.

7. Describe complex issues and problems simply so every person can understand.
8. Never stop learning — depth and breadth of knowledge are equally important.
9. Encourage constructive criticism.
10. Surround yourself with great people and delegate to them full authority and responsibility.
11. Make ethical standards more important than legal requirements.
12. Strive for team-based wins, not individual.
13. Emphasize capability — not organization.
14. Incorporate measures and metrics everywhere.
15. Concentrate on core functions and outsource all others.

funding is poised to increase as the oceanographic community climbs out of a slump.

However, NAVOCEANO civilian forces will have to keep pace with the realignment of CNMOC's military, and that will mean changes that remain unspecified for now.

"There's going to have to be some method of accountability so that folks understand that you're on a team," McGee said. "And your team starts with you and ends with that lieutenant junior grade or that lieutenant commander in Japan on the force, and that's one team."

Flag Etiquette

Honoring Colors

Each Friday at 0800, NAVOCEANO military and civilians observe morning colors, the hoisting of the flag while playing the National Anthem.

According to U.S. Code, conduct during hoisting, lowering or passing of the flag is as follows:

“During the ceremony of hoisting or lowering the flag or when the flag is passing in a parade or in review, all present except those in uniform should face the flag and stand at attention with the right hand over the heart.

Those present in uniform should render the military salute.

When not in uniform, men should remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart.

The salute to the flag in a moving column should be rendered at the moment the flag passes.”

For Your Benefit

Designation of Beneficiaries

The designation of a beneficiary should be considered for your Unpaid Compensation, Federal Employees Group Life Insurance (FEGLI), Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) and Retirement (CSRS and/or FERS).

It is only necessary to designate a beneficiary if you want payment to be made in a way other than the following order of precedence: (1) First, to your widow or widower. (2) If none, to your child or equally among your children and descendants of deceased children by representation. (3) If none, to your parents equally or to the surviving parent. (4) If none, to the appointed executor or administrator of your estate. (5) If none, to your next of kin who is entitled to your estate under the laws of the state in which you resided at the time of your death.

Each beneficiary form pertains to that benefit only and will have no bearing on the payout of any other type benefit. To be valid, each beneficiary form must be

free of alterations and erasures and have two witnesses' signatures. Their signatures ensure you have signed the form in their presence. A witness is not eligible to receive payment as a beneficiary.

The filing of a new designation form will cancel any designation you have previously filed. Name all persons you wish to designate as beneficiaries when completing a new designation.

You may submit or change a designation of beneficiary at any time, without the knowledge or consent of a previous beneficiary. Once you have designations of beneficiary on file, it is important that you keep them up-to-date. If someone you designate should predecease you or you change your mind about whom you wish to designate, you must complete a new beneficiary form. Although it is not required, it is a good idea to complete new designation forms if there is a change in address for a beneficiary. If the beneficiary cannot be found, the pay-

Safety Matters

Big Job, Small Staff: NAVO's Safety Office Covers Everything from Fires to Hurricanes

From being prepared for fires to detecting harmful chemicals and riding out hurricanes, assuring NAVOCEANO safety rests with Terry Shelby, NAVOCEANO's environmental safety and health manager.

members have a safe and healthful working environment.

That means making inspections, regularly being inspected themselves, keeping up with constantly changing regulations, running various tests and staying informed on safety and health issues.

“Things change. Safety changes. It's pretty challenging to try and keep up with that,” said Shelby, a 30-year veteran of Navy civilian service.

Five years ago, Shelby arrived at NAVOCEANO after working in Florida, California, Alaska and Washington.

Shelby said he has been able to work in so many states because his occupational specialty is unique. The Navy believes new eyes and ears are periodically necessary in safety positions.

“Environmental and safety are pretty mobile,” he said. “If there's something lying in the way, people will step over it every day. But if you get a new guy in, he's going to pick it up.”

Safety drills are part of Shelby's duties. His office stages and manages

He and Safety Specialist Carolyn Scott report to Facilities, Safety and Environment Branch Head Mike Killam. Together, Shelby and Scott constitute a two-person team that administers a wide range of programs to ensure that NAVOCEANO



NAVOCEANO employees reported back to work once receiving the All Clear sign from fire department officials during a recent fire drill.

For Your Benefit

ment cannot be made.

Review and update your designations of beneficiary forms every five years. If you are unsure who you have designated as a beneficiary, simply complete new designation forms.

It is your responsibility to ensure that your designations of beneficiary forms remain accurate and reflect your intentions. Be aware that benefits will be paid based on a valid designation, regardless of whether that designation still reflects your intentions. Changes in family status (such as marriage or divorce) without a corresponding change in designation of beneficiary could result in benefits not being paid the way you want.

A divorce does not invalidate a designation that names your former spouse as beneficiary.

Keep a copy of all designation of beneficiary forms in a safe place. Let your loved ones know where that place is and review them from time to time.

NAVOCEANO News

Welcome to NAVOCEANO, IHMEP Students



Upon their arrival at NAVOCEANO in March, International Hydrographic Management and Engineering Program (IHMEP) students were greeted by Executive Officer CAPT Andy Brown (fourth from left) and their sponsors. The 2005 students are 1stLT Konrad Paszkowski (Poland), LTJG Suhairi Bin Suman (Malaysia), LCDR Saleh Mohammed al Rahbi (Oman), LTJG Sofien Rabti (Tunisia), LTJG Holokaukau Lakai (Tonga) and LT Amit Kumar (India) (not pictured). During the six-month course, students will gain a working knowledge of hydrography through practical training in several related fields.

Safety Matters

the annual NAVOCEANO fire drill, most recently held in March. He also participates in annual hurricane readiness drills, when the Atlantic Fleet simulates hurricanes. The most recent hurricane readiness exercise, HURREX 05, occurred 2-13 May.

The practice session is designed to test hurricane emergency capabilities at units located along the East Coast, throughout Florida and the Caribbean islands and along the Gulf Coast as far as Texas.

As part of the scenario, three artificially constructed tropical systems were developed and then intensified to hurricane strength. The Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Center-Norfolk then originated tropical cyclone warning messages at six-hour intervals.

The event included participation by all shore-based Navy units throughout the area and ships at sea. Ships in port did not have to get underway, and aircraft were not required to evacuate for the exercise.

In official language, the purpose of

HURREX 05 was "to provide afloat and shore-based Atlantic Fleet commands and other DOD activities with hurricane threat scenarios in exercising disaster preparedness and recovery/consequence management procedures."

After HURREX 05 was completed, participating units were encouraged to file "lessons learned" to share with the fleet or improve future exercises.

Killam serves as assistant destructive plan officer. The office works with the destructive plan officer to communicate all hurricane information and prepare the emergency shelter for the general public in Building 1100, if requested by emergency preparedness coordinators from the local communities. The public will not be sheltered in Building 1002 because of classified nature of work conducted in the building, said Shelby.

The safety office runs 28 separate programs ranging from records maintenance to policies and responsibilities, testing procedures, hazardous recognition, data analysis and report preparation. The

office conducts bulk sampling at NAVOCEANO facilities for air quality, mold, lead, asbestos and other harmful substances.

Every three years, a team from NAS Hospital Pensacola inspects NAVOCEANO safety programs. The Pensacola team examines safety equipment, medical records and training programs. No significant negative findings resulted from the last inspection, held in March.

In addition, NASA conducted a three-day inspection of NAVOCEANO safety programs and conditions last November. In his report on that examination, John Stealey, acting manager of NASA's Office of Safety and Mission Assurance at Stennis, issued the type of praise government employees like to hear.

"The NAVOCEANO team is to be congratulated on their positive attitude about safety and the desire to improve your program," Stealey wrote. "This is especially true in light of your present situation regarding a limited safety staff."

All Hands

NAVOCEANO's New High Profile

NAVOCEANO Commanding Officer CAPT Jeffrey Best covered a wide range of topics during an All Hands April 20, ranging from an informal update on the A-76 process to NAVOCEANO's heightened profile throughout the Navy.

Eight months after launching its reorganization along business lines, NAVOCEANO is already reaping benefits, with the Warfighting Support Center and Antisubmarine Warfare seeing the most immediate impact.

"We're getting noticed," said Best. "We're getting called upon when there's an ASW [antisubmarine warfare] problem."

The command's navigation expertise is also being recognized in helping find solutions to problems such as the accident involving the *USS San Francisco*.

Best said NAVOCEANO personnel distinguished themselves by quick response to the December tsunami in south Asia. Two Fleet Survey Teams reached the area to begin surveys within a week, and *USNS John McDonnell* arrived on scene and conducted surveys for about a month.

Best said he expects surveyors to return to the tsunami area for more work in the next two months.

He briefly reviewed some terms of A-76, the study to determine which government functions will eventually bid against private contractors for the work. The planning process will take 6-9 months.

Another project will be getting all necessary military people on board and established as business line managers who will be working with civilian direc-



N621's Danny Braun accepts the Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Award from CAPT Jeff Best.

tors of operations. Thirty-four Navy personnel will be arriving for ASW.

"So we have a long way to go," Best said. "It's going to take probably at least two years to get all the military involved."



Survey Excellence Award recipients included Bill Marquez, Bill Ulm, Stephanie Shiel, Jon Burrell, Chuck Nichols, Dave Somers, Bill Mehaffey, Jon Shepetis, Honore Hazeur, Christy Finch, Scott Bruner, Craig Brown, Rickie Campbell and Jeff Kerling.



Employees receiving PEP certificates included Barbara Reed, BMC Cecil Watt, Tony Taylor, Betty Howell, Sue Sebastian, Kurt Nelson, Mary Mitchell, Bruce McKenzie, Mike Jugan, QM1 Chris Birl, James Cape, Claude B. Christopher, LCDR Todd Barnhill and Bonnie Lee Martino.

Fuksman, continued from page 12.

“They took off my father and brother from the street, and I never saw them again,” she said. Another sister contracted tuberculosis and froze to death, begging for bread on the street.

Tuberculosis, typhoid fever, starvation and Nazi atrocities made death an everyday occurrence. Her parents, two brothers and two sisters all died at the hands of the Nazis.

Fuksman survived the Holocaust and was eventually liberated by Soviet troops at the Ravensbruck, Germany, concentration camp. After waiting more than four years for a visa to come to the United States, she arrived in New Orleans through sponsorship of the Jewish Welfare Federation.

There, she met her husband, Max, another Holocaust survivor. Although they had not known each other in Europe, both had grown up in the same Polish city.

She became a U.S. citizen, and she and her husband, who is no longer alive, operated a furniture store for many years and raised three daughters. She now has five grandchildren.

Special Olympics



NAVOCEANO's Robert Moshier was one of many volunteers at the Area III Special Olympic games at Stennis Space Center, which drew hundreds of athletes in April.

Ocean Frontier Survey

In an effort to better serve our Ocean Frontier readers, we will periodically conduct a newsletter survey to request feedback on our readers' areas of interest. Please keep in mind that this is an official Navy publication, and its content should reflect that manner of professionalism. We appreciate you taking the time to complete this survey and returning it to our office. Thank you for your participation!

1. How do you receive your copy of the Ocean Frontier?
☐ a. U.S. Postal mail ☐ b. Intra-office mail
☐ c. Stacks on site ☐ d. Web site
2. Do you receive it in a timely manner?
☐ Yes ☐ No
3. Have there been occasions when you have not received your copy?
☐ Yes ☐ No If so, when? _____
4. What do you most enjoy about the Ocean Frontier?
☐ a. Survey travel information ☐ b. Department and personal features
☐ c. Technical features ☐ d. PEP and community involvement
☐ e. Awards ☐ f. Other _____
5. What other Navy/Command news would you like to see in your newsletter?

6. PAO welcomes story submissions and ideas from NAVO personnel. Are you interested in writing/submitting a work-related column or article to the newsletter?
☐ Yes ☐ No If so, on what topic? _____
7. Additional comments: _____

Please complete, clip and return this survey to:

NAVOCEANO Public Affairs
 Building 1100, Room 148
 1002 Balch Boulevard
 Stennis Space Center, Miss. 39522-5001

Name and Code: (optional) _____

Cospelich, continued from page 3.

as a very valuable experience.”

W

In 2002, she was named assistant disbursing officer.

Cospelich's hard worked paid off again when she was named defense travel administrator under the new Defense Travel System (DTS). The system will shift much of the paperwork related to travel orders online and could be opera-

tional by the end of July.

“I foresee it's going to be very user-friendly and a big benefit,” she said.

She and her husband, Jake, a real estate investor, are outdoor enthusiasts. They spend many weekends and holidays on the road, camping, fishing, swimming and enjoying their bass and ski boat.

“Someday we'd like to have a motor home and travel,” she said. “But for now

Reenlistment

Chief Boatswain's Mate Cecil Watt of Boat Operations signs reenlistment papers for two more years in the U.S. Navy as Command Career Counselor Aerographer's Mate First Class Travis Younce looks on.

Standing by is Electrician's Mate First Class Michael Carter, also of Boat Operations.



DTS, continued from page 1.
person in DOD, civilian and military.”

Fast, electronic reimbursement of travel expenses is a priority. “Why should our travelers be financing our operations?” said Johnson. “That’s what happens, in effect, if we don’t reimburse them promptly.” With DTS, DOD will now be able to reimburse its business travelers quickly and electronically.

DTS places approval of travel arrangements and certification of travel vouchers at NAVOCEANO instead of a servicing finance location. This places the authority to make travel decisions with leaders and managers responsible for completing missions.

Reports from pilot DTS sites show time spent administering travel has been cut 33 percent.

Simply put, DTS is online travel. DTS provides electronic connectivity among the traveler, the authorizing official, local accounting and disbursing systems, the comptroller’s budget, the commercial travel service provider, the commercial bank card service and the electronic archive of travel-related documents, including required travel receipts.

This electronic connectivity and archival process eliminates reams of paperwork previously required for business travel.

The automated payment of government charge cards is a benefit for many travelers. It takes much of the bill paying responsibility away from the traveler and reduces delinquencies caused by having an extra delay in the payment/repayment chain. Once a voucher is approved for payment, reimbursement for expenses charged to the traveler’s government charge card is made electronically, directly to the traveler’s government charge card account.

Plans are to implement DTS at 11,000 DOD locations by the end of fiscal year 2006, supporting over 90 percent of DOD business travel.

Eventually NAVOCEANO will implement DTS for all travelers, but at first only some personnel will use the system.

“It’s prudent that we start small and grow in a slow, steady fashion,” said NAVOCEANO Comptroller Don Lancaster. “We’ll convert fully only when the system is ready to handle it.”

To learn more about DTS, visit www.defensetravel.osd.mil.

Technical Lecture

Charting Products Division Director Max van Norden (standing) and Tony Taylor (not pictured), Quality Assurance Branch, presented two separate technical lectures in April at NAVOCEANO.

The presentations were previously given to Hydro2005 Conference attendees in San Diego, Calif., in April and were repeated on-site for the benefit of NAVOCEANO personnel.



OC, continued from page 3.

to their mission needs so we don’t become a roadblock,” said Lancaster.

Lancaster’s group stays busy with NAVOCEANO’s constant flow of finances, and they are proud to be a part of it.

“Our part of keeping things going is fairly routine financial business,” said Lancaster. “It’s not that much different from similar commands, but what we support is very interesting and different.”

Lancaster graduated from what is now the University of Louisiana at Monroe with a bachelor’s in accounting. He then joined the Navy. Before retiring 23 years later, he received a master’s in financial management from the Naval Postgraduate School. After retiring from COMNAVMETOCOM in 1994, he entered private industry as comptroller for Designer Vans in Picayune, Miss. One year later, Lancaster applied to become Budget Officer at NAVOCEANO. He was named comptroller soon after. Lancaster is also an inactive, registered certified public accountant for Louisiana.

Awards

Civilian Length of Service

5 Years

Eric J. Singer
Karen W. Patterson

10 Years

Richard A. Balser
Melody F. Bledsoe
Mayra I. Santiago
Timothy S. Vann
Terry L. Wheat

15 Years

Charles A. Baptiste
Matthew C. Barron
Robert Carter Jr.
Frederick N. Culliver
David F. Hasenkampf
John P. Hays
Donna G. Juneau
John R. Love
David P. Malley
Laurraine M. McKenzie
David L. Melhuish
Bao H. Nguyen
Su Q. Nguyen
Willis C. Pettway
Christopher K. Rushing
Paul D. Stephens
Carlos P. Thompson
Tri Q. Trinh

20 Years

William R. Armour
Billy J. Hebert Jr.
Clarence Hull IV
William C. Kelly
Blaine E. Korreckt
Bertha N. Martensen
Wilbert J. Morell
James M. Williams Sr.
Susan D. Wilson

25 Years

Robert E. Coulter
Steven D. Haeger
Karen D. Headley
Leslie A. Lorig
George M. Mason
James T. Michell

30 Years

Cynthia V. Bruno
Joseph C. Friemark

35 Years

William E. Bradley
David W. Gay

*Navy Meritorious Civilian
Service Award*
Danny Braun

Tsunami Relief

Survey Team Award

Dwayne Acker
Charles Baptiste
Daryl Chastain
Terry Deberry
Dale Hare
Robert D. Jones
Robert P. Jones
Stephanie May
David Melhuish
Forrest Noll
Wade Pitts
Sheldon Powe
Reid Sandford
Matthew A. Thompson

Individual Award

John Albasini
William Becker
Teresa Bennett
Todd Bowers
Shannon Breland
Mike Brooking
Frank Bub
Ronald Carswell
Steve Cash
Lanee Cooksey
Tom Cuff
Christy Davis
Marty Doody
Don Ecuyer
Alan Foster
Brenda Gilbert
Steve Harrison
Molly Haynes
Carol Herr
Bill Hillery
Nathan Hopper
Katy Kapolka
Valinda Kirkland
Harold Littles
Dennis Lundberg

Ken Matulewski
Al Molnar
Robert Moshier
Jim Newman
Karen Patterson
Marc Pinsel
Kevin Reynolds
Bethany Robb
Greg Ruby
Dee Dee Smith
Pam Stenum
Ray Szymankiewicz
Eula Woods

Letter of Commendation

Steve Alexander
Cheryl Andrews
Marvin Arnold

Ed Arthur (NGIT)

Jerry Bickham
Martin Booda
Danny Braun
Cindy Bricker
Cindy Bruno
Michael Carnes
Cathy Carson
Jerrold Clark (NGA)
Mitzi Clough
Rachel Coleman
Jerry Core
Gina Cospelich
Timothy Cox
Tom Crew
Mike Cuthbertson (NGA)

John Daniel
Allison Dean
Chris DeHaan
Terry Duvieilh
Julie Dye
Mandy Emmer
Sally Erickson
Steve Farr
Paul Farrar
Ian Ferguson
Mark Geiger
Bruce Gomes
Dunny Green
Larry Haddox
Steve Haeger
Margot Hair
John Harding
John Hays
Carrie Horne (Radiance)
Timothy Howell
Clay Hull
Mark Jarrett
Michael Jeffries
Donna Juneau
Ricky Kelish
Kimberly Kelly
Lori Kerns
Kathy Keys (Radiance)
Tom King
Lisa Klingenger
Dennis Krynen
David Lalejini
Don Lancaster
Jerry Leone
Diane Meadows
Nicole Miller (Radiance)
Kendall Mitchell
Patrice Muse
Melissa Niolet
Carol North
Megan Olson
Larry Patman
Ralph Perniciaro

Cheryl Phelps (NGA)

Cathy Pope
Marie Reynolds
Sharon Roerick (NGA)
John Rogers
David Schneider
Peggy Schnexnayder
Stephanie Shiel
Rebecca Smith
Mia Stevens
Eric Stock
Carl Szczechowski
Traci Tebbs
Michael Toner
Rory Toon
Khai Tran
Brenda Villalobos
Jo Villareal (NGA)
Steve Walker
Robert White
Mickey Williams
Keith Willis
Billy Wood
Ron Woodson
Gerald Worth

Navy Meritorious Service Medal

CDR Brent Clarke

PEP Certificate of Appreciation

Steve Adamec
Peter Baas
LCDR Todd Barnhill
QM1 Christopher Birl
Glen Boyer
Quent Burge
James Cape
Claude B. Christopher
Belinda Clark
Scott Cross
Craig Cumbee
Richard Enkoji
Stanley Harvey
Betty Howell
Julius Jackson
Mary Jones
Mike Jugan
LT Deborah Mabey
Bonnie Lee Martino
Amanda McKee
Bruce McKenzie
Mary Mitchell
Al Molnar
Kurt Nelson
Megan Olson
Barbara Reed
Susan Sebastian
Tony Taylor
BMC Cecil Watt
AG1 Travis Younce
Lauri Zeller

NAVOCEANO News

Local Holocaust Survivor Speaks at Ceremony

As long as she lives, Felicia Fuksman will never forget the sight of children being thrown from second-floor windows and balconies by Nazi soldiers in her native Poland.

Nor, 66 years later, can she escape the sound of their screams as those children plummeted to their deaths.

"I can still hear that. I was there, and I saw it with my own eyes," the Holocaust survivor and New Orleans resident told more than 100 employees at the Naval Oceanographic Office's (NAVOCEANO's) Maury Oceanographic Library.

Fuksman was guest speaker at Days of Remembrance of the Victims of the Holocaust, sponsored by NAVOCEANO. The ceremony was NAVOCEANO's 15th annual remembrance.

This year's ceremony also marked the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Nazi concentration camps. Captain Jeffrey Best, NAVOCEANO's commanding officer, said the annual memorial and others like it worldwide are necessary to keep the horrors of the Holocaust in mind, so similar events never again occur.

"Certainly, it's important that we understand the travesty of what happened 60 years ago, and that we pass it along to our chil-



Richard Balser, CAPT Jeff Best and Steve Faber (far right) present Ms. Felicia Fuksman with a token of appreciation for her participation in the 15th annual Holocaust Remembrance ceremony at NAVOCEANO.

dren," Best said.

The ceremony opened with an invitational statement provided by Rabbi Harold M. Schulweis from Los Angeles, Calif. Schulweis' statement defined the Nazi perpetrators as the "seekers" and added special praise to the "hidiers" - those who risked their own lives to hide individuals, families and children, and who falsified papers to provide other would-be victims an escape from the Nazi atrocities. Had it not been for these hidiers and their efforts, even fewer people would have survived.

Fuksman, a Polish Jew, was 19 years old when World War II began. When German troops marched into her hometown of Lodz, Poland, she began a nightmare journey that would not end until her entire immediate family had died.

See **Fuksman**, page 9.

Awards, continued

Navy Achievement Medal and Good Conduct Medal
YN1 Annette Batts

Survey Excellence Award
William Becker
Craig Brown
John Brown
Scott Bruner
Jon Burrell
Ricki Campbell
Steve Crossland
Aubrey Derry
Ian Fergusson
Christy Finch
Honore Hazeur
Larry Johnson
Jeff Kerling
Bill Marquez
Bill Mehaffey
Charles Nichols
Dave Sanders
Jon Shepetis
Donald Shiel
Stephanie Shiel
Dave Somers
Bruce Stier
Bill Ulm
Steve Warner
Robert Ziegler

News in Brief

Military attached to NAVOCEANO and Fleet Survey Team have been selected by the Secretary of the Navy to receive the Navy Unit Commendation.

Stephan B. Walton, former NAVOCEANO fleet representative, has been selected as the Office of Naval Research Science Advisor to Commander, Seventh Fleet VADM Jonathan W. Greenert.

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